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SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1914.

### THE REBELS' FUTURE IN THEIR OWN HANDS.

Just what the rebels in Mexico will do is not yet clear. Reports as to their future course are conflicting. Carranza seems inclined to join forces with Huerta in repelling a possible American invasion, while Villa, on the other hand, is quoted as saying that it is Huerta's affair and the rebels will keep out of it. It would appear that there is a breach between the rebel leaders, but if so, there is no question as to whose word will prevail. Villa is the real master among the Constitutionalists. Whatever course he finally determines upon will be the one followed. So the attitude of our government today is a waiting one. Until the rebels' next step is definitely known nothing will be done by the United States to pile up trouble for itself. In the meantime, Villa will be watched, for he is not to be trusted.

There never has been any love on the part of either Villa or Carranza for the United States, and more outrages have been committed against Americans by the rebels than by Huerta. This anti-American feeling in the north of Mexico, which is reported to be increasing, may ultimately lead the rebel leaders to unite with the federalists, yet that course would be directly against the interests of the Constitutionalists. The seizure of Vera Cruz by the American forces is helpful to the rebel cause. It was Huerta's main channel of communication with the outside world, and the loss of it will greatly handicap him in his operations against the Constitutionalists.

Whether Huerta is to replace Huerta in power, or whether they are to be submerged, largely depends on what course they elect to take.

If it be war, it certainly isn't peace.

With the rebels neutral and Vera Cruz in the hands of the American forces, Huerta is seriously hampered.

### THE MARINES ON THE JOB.

President Huerta persisted in his attitude of refusal to admit the United States, and hundreds of American marines swarmed from the small boats of the invading fleet riding in the harbor and advanced, a menacing cloud in open order, on the fortress of Vera Cruz to open the lightning.

That is the business of the United States marine corps—to open the fighting. They did it in Cuba, in the Philippines, in Tripoli, on the coast of Africa, in Japan—wherever our fighting has been started from the sea. It is a heritage handed down to them, "politics of the sea," from the Phoenicians and other ancient seafarers who went down to the sea in ships and gained treasure and tribute by right of sword and conquest.

The United States and Great Britain are the only two world powers

who use the marine corps. The United States marine corps is modeled after that of Great Britain.

In June, 1776, the Continental Congress, by an act, founded the United States marine corps under the command of one major, Samuel Nicholas, 9 captains, 10 first lieutenants and 7 second lieutenants. This force gained laurels in the naval and coast actions in the revolutionary war.

At the close of the war the marine corps died, probably of inertia. In the war of 1812 the urgent need of sea soldiers drew the marine corps together again as if by magic, and in the terrible fighting of the lakes, in New Orleans, in all of the coast battles, this branch of the service bore the brunt of the fighting and impressed the needs of this kind of body on the people of the country.

With Bainbridge in the war with Tripoli, went a full quota of this marine corps. They did the heavy fighting with the Bey's and brought victory to the American arms. Again, when Japan insulted the United States, a cordon of these sailor soldiers brought the apology and atonement.

In the civil war the marine corps rendered service in the blockading fleets and in battle, like Fort Fisher and other coast actions.

And now the war cloud looms black against the horizon. And the marines have been called back to their job.

Spring housecleaning has started in Mexico.

Huerta has purchased an aeroplane. Getting ready, no doubt, to fly.

War with Mexico would not be a picnic. Our experience might be much like that of the British in South Africa, even though we are close neighbors of Mexico. In South Africa the British went forth as on a lark. The Boers were small in numbers, but the British soon found they were sharpshooters and sturdy fighters. Britain triumphed ultimately, but it cost her many lives and millions in money. It has not yet recovered from the shock to its finances.

Now Huerta is "watchfully waiting."

Pronounce it Oo-nyr-tah, but call it anything you please.

### LANGUAGES IN MICHIGAN.

The English and Celtic (including Irish, Scotch, or Welsh) group was the largest among the 1,560,491 persons of foreign white stock in Michigan in 1910, who represented 56 per cent of the total white population of that state, according to the mother tongue bulletin recently issued by Director William J. Harris, of the Bureau of the Census, department of commerce. Its mother tongue is the native language, or that spoken before immigration, and the report covers all white persons of foreign stock, including the foreign born and also the native, one or both of whose parents were foreign born.

As this reported, the total foreign white stock whose mother tongue was English and Celtic (including Irish, Scotch, or Welsh) was 828,594. This number represented 21 per cent of the total white population of Michigan, which was 2,785,247. The German group numbered 396,532, or 14 per cent; the Polish, 125,222, or 5 per cent; the French, 99,456, or 4 per cent; the Dutch and Prussian, 92,694, or 3 per cent; the Swedish, 64,391, or 2.3 per cent; and the Finnish, 55,022, or 2 per cent. The number of persons in Michigan of foreign white stock reporting other principal mother tongues were Italian, 27,318; Norwegian, 17,921; Danish, 16,454; Yiddish and Hebrew, 14,348; Bohemian and Moravian, 10,126; Flemish, 8,216; Magyar, 7,792; Serbian-Croatian, 6,229; Slovenian, 5,690; Lithuanian and Lettish, 2,976; Slovak, 2,802; Syrian and Arabic, 1,649; and Russian, 1,274.

No true American will cry down the American flag at a time like this. Or our form of government. This is a time to stand by the United States.

Nelson O'Shaughnessy is safe in Vera Cruz, and the whole country will rejoice that he is out of the danger zone. O'Shaughnessy will long be remembered as a man who did his duty fearlessly, patriotically and thoroughly, in the face of the most trying odds. His ability and conduct throughout the crisis in Mexican affairs were distinctly creditable to his country and himself.

The Washington correspondents are saying that Macdonald is soon to return to the upper peninsula for the purpose of fixing his political fences. They are in mighty bad repair, comments the shipping iron ore. The frosts of the past winter have heaved them all out of line. The frosts of winter have been very damaging, but they will be as nothing compared with the frosts of this summer. The summer frosts are the ones that kill.

Birmingham, Ala., will use wire incinerators in parks. Incinerators are simply wire cages, when filled with paper and rubbish a match is applied.

Thomas Johnson has been bellringer for 63 years for the parish church of Sandwich, Eng. He is 77.

Dayton, O., will hereafter flush streets semi-weekly at night.

Greenville, S. C., is spending \$2,500 for a municipal garbage incinerator.

## DESCRIBES MUD-WATER BATTLE

British Officer Tells of Odd Contest in the Himalayas

Washington, D. C., April 25.—One of the oddest animal contests in the world, a mud and water fight, during which the women of far-off and little-known Bhutan, in the heart of the Himalayas, seek to prevent the men from taking possession of an inundated rice field, is described by John Claude White, late political officer in charge of Sikkim, Bhutan, and parts of Tibet within the sphere of British influence, in a communication to the National Geographic Society, at Washington, D. C. The event is known as the spring ceremony of blessing the rice fields. Victory for the women portends, during the coming season, fertility of the soil and increase among the flocks and herds.

"Early one morning the sound of a sweet-toned gong warned us that the spring ceremony of blessing the rice fields was about to begin," writes Mr. White. "A long and picturesque procession of men and women, led by the dhyer, came wending down the hillside until the first rice field, into which water had been running all the day before, was reached. The field here was still dry, and turning in there they all sat down and had some refreshments. Suddenly the men sprang up, throwing off their outer garments; this was the signal for the women to rush to the inundated field and to commence throwing clouds of earth and splashes of muddy water on the men below as they tried to climb up. Then followed a wild and mad, though always good-natured, struggle between the men and the women in the water, the men doing their utmost to take possession of the watery field, the women equally determined to keep them out."

**The Women Victorious.**  
"The dhyer, the leader of the men, suffered severely, though the courtesies of war were strictly observed, and if one of the assailants fell his opponents helped him up and gave him breathing space to recover before another onslaught was made. But gradually the women drove the men slowly down the whole length of the field until the last stand was made by a very stout and powerful official, who, clinging to an overhanging rock, with his back to his foes, used his feet to scum up such quantities of mud and water that no one was able to come near him. However, all the other men having been driven off, he and the dhyer were allowed at last to crawl up on the path and the combat for the year was over. The victory of the women was looked upon as a very propitious omen; so they dispersed to their various homes rejoicing."

Mr. White writes of being entertained by one of the officials, as follows: "We here saw what capable housewives the Bhutan ladies are. Everything was done very systematically. In the morning the provisions for the day were given out—no easy task, with some hundreds of retainers to feed—and the store-rooms reloaded, orders issued, and tasks appointed to spinning, weaving, etc., to be carried out by the large household of women, and it was interesting to see the deference in which these dames are held. We were shown all the industries of weaving in cotton, wool and silk, the process of casting metals, chiefly bells and images, the making of swords and gold and silver-smith's work. Many pieces turned out by the latter were of exquisite design and finish. It was all most interesting and instructive."

Land of Arid Sands.  
And all around about the city where yellow fever abounds when some country or other is not battering at its low walls with warlike meanings, is a land of arid sands and swamps and deserts, without real roads and with no vegetation or any sign of living nature until the hills are reached that suddenly take the traveler out of the forsaken country into one where it is always spring. That is on the way to Mexico City.

Vera Cruz is about 200 miles from the capital of Mexico, but within a short hour's ride up into the hills, the temperature and physical conditions of the country change completely.

Until within the last year, it would have been impossible for vessels such as those composing the big Atlantic fleet to have found a safe haven in the port of Vera Cruz. By the conclusion of the work of twenty years and the expenditure of \$30,000,000 which it has taken to make a protected port, however, the greatest danger to vessels, even those within a short distance of land, has been done away with. For many years the one dread of mariners were the terrific northers which blow over the bay when the waters were covered with ice in the narrow channel between the reefs of Calles and Calles, the reef on which the fortress is built, and two big ships about as chills.

### Winds Drive Away Fever.

But if mariners dreaded the northers, they have been the one salvation of Vera Cruz and are the principal reason the city has been able to stagger along through the centuries, since

## Shelling of Vera Cruz Is no New Experience for Ancient City

Mexican Port for Centuries Has Been Pirates' Prey—Town Built on Coral

Vera Cruz—Villa Rica de la Vera Cruz, "The Rich City of the True Cross," as its founder, Cortes, called it, this week became an important point of interest to the world, as it has been before, many times, in its long and turbulent career.

The action of Commander Charles F. Hughes, chief of staff of the United States Atlantic fleet at the Mexican port, in calling on Gen. Gustavo Moscos, commander of the Federal troops there, and instructing him to order all merchant vessels out of the harbor and in preparing to have taken on board these merchant vessels the American and other foreign women in Vera Cruz, has turned the eyes of the world on the hot, low-lying city of the Gulf.

### Bombarded Often.

Were Cortes, who named the city and then left it while his ships were burning in the harbor, to strike out into the interior to conquer Mexico, alive today, he would probably call the town by another name. "The City of Many Trials" might be a more fitting name. For during the centuries that Vera Cruz has struggled for existence, it has probably been more often bombarded from the sea, been overgrown from land, even at the mercy of pirates and the scene of pestilence than any other city on the globe.

Even the physical appearance of the city as it stretches in a low line along the glittering water's edge, flattened into the burning sands, seagulls, sharks, turtles, as though physically crushed by the giant hand of misfortune, bears out its history. It is a town built of coral, and even the floor that has been used in the building of the low houses, and the pavements, which ages have given a high polish, are of coral, as is the foundation of San Juan de Ulua, on a coral reef a mile from the mainland, which is the principal fortress of the town.

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the wild winds have driven away the fever which is the most real and dreaded foe of the 25,000 dwellers of the city.

When pestilence has left the place alone for a time, history shows that it has been the mark for bold, swarming pirates, and more than once has fire sought to wipe it from the face of the earth. The worst fire in the history of Vera Cruz was in 1618, when not a vestige of it was left, but it rose somehow from the ashes, and went along with only pirates to dread until 1822, when the Spanish bombarded and took it. In 1828 the French took a fling at the ill-fated town, and nine years later the Americans came along and did exactly what they are threatening to do now—bombarded and took the town which was thought to be the key to the control of Mexico.

Such are a few of the disasters by land and attacks by sea that Vera Cruz has survived and still lives on, hidden to dogs, tormented by mosquitoes, harried by plague, that will hardly give it a chance to lift its sick head and look out on the sunbaked sea that stretches out hazy and dreamy beyond the dismal fortresses of San Juan de Ulua, which cost 50,000 pesos to build, and where Huerta's prisoners are living a death in life in stony, dripping, darkened dungeons, where they have to stand for hours when the tide is high—the fortress which is the pride of Mexico, on its coral reef, around which the shiny shafts shoot in and out, and with its walls if dogs feel thick and its bristling cannons that would probably mean death to the men who tried to fire them.

### "THIS IS MY 62ND BIRTHDAY."

Thelma W. Sims, one of the veteran members of the Tennessee delegation in the national house of representatives, was born in Wayne County, Tennessee, April 25, 1852. After spending his boyhood on a farm he entered Cumberland University and was graduated in 1876. The same year he was admitted to the bar and began practicing law in the town of Linden, Tenn. In 1892 he served as a Democratic presidential elector. Five years later he was elected to Congress from the Eighth Tennessee district and is now serving his ninth consecutive term.

### Congratulations to—

Phyllis Mary, only daughter of King George and Queen Mary, 17 years old today.

William Mansfield, the performer of the Wireless Telegraph, 46 years old today.

John P. Stevens, former chief engineer of the Panama Canal, 61 years old today.

Paul Armstrong, well known American playwright, 45 years old today.

Russell Ford, pitcher of the Buffalo Federal league baseball team, 31 years old today.

### "THIS DATE IN HISTORY."

1844—Spain recognized the independence of Chile.

1849—Political riots in Toronto and Montreal over the rebellion losses bill.

1862—The Confederate forces withdrew from New Orleans.

1865—Steamship Anglo-Saxon wrecked off Cape Race, with loss of 306 lives.

1882—Hanoi, the capital of Tonquin, captured by the French.

1885—Queen Victoria received Prince Thibault in special audience at Berlin.

1892—First stone of the new Campanile of St. Marks, Venice, laid.

## WOOD ALCOHOL AFFECTS SIGHT

Teaspoonful of Liquid May Cause Total Blindness

St. Louis, Mo., April 25.—Carolyn C. Van Blaroom, secretary of the New York committee for the Prevention of Blindness, speaking before the organization for Public Health Nursing here today on "preventable blindness," recommended that the label "may cause blindness or death if swallowed or inhaled" be universally used in the sale of wood alcohol.

"In one year in New York City alone twelve persons were blinded and three killed by wood alcohol," she said. "A teaspoonful of this poison may cause total blindness, a larger quantity often causes death. Only within recent years has wood alcohol become so dangerous to life and sight. Formerly it was a dark, bad-smelling, bad-tasting fluid which no one was tempted to drink. A process is now known by means of which this color, taste and odor are removed. Wood alcohol when purified in this way looks, tastes and smells like 'good' (grain) alcohol, and may easily be substituted for it in white whiskey, cordials, brandy, essence, extracts, patent medicines, etc. As much blindness and death have been caused also by breathing the fumes of wood alcohol as by swallowing the liquid. These fumes come from wood alcohol used in varnishes, furniture, lead-pencils and the like; in dyes for coloring artificial flowers; in shampoos for stiffening hair; in the manufacture of photo-engraving; and from stoves and lamps in which wood alcohol is burned."

## NUDE ART CAUSES BITTER CONTROVERSY IN GERMANY

MORALISTS GET BILL BEFORE PARLIAMENT AND ARTISTS ARE ANGRY.

Berlin, April 25.—German moralists and artists are warring bitterly over the question of what are the limits of propriety in nude art.

After a long campaign for the "protection of the youth against filth in word and picture," as the movement is termed, the moralists have succeeded in getting a bill before parliament for a law stamping as obscene pictures which might arouse the phantasies of young youth.

The Goethe association, an organization of artists and literary men and women, has risen in protest. At a recent meeting, Dr. Ludwig Fulda, referred to the recent decision of the imperial supreme court in the case arising from the confiscation by the police of a great quantity of postcard reproductions of famous paintings. This court held that the provision of the law stamping as indecent works which "tend to cause offense to or injure the feelings of modesty of a normal person" clearly contemplated a normal adult person, and that pictures were not necessarily indecent from the mere fact that they might "arouse the phantasies of unripe youth." The court also ruled that nudity is not in itself indecent. This latter ruling, said Dr. Fulda, was undoubtedly a vote of confidence in the Creator of all things.

The measure to which the Goethe association objects seeks to counteract the ruling of the Supreme court. It provides that adults may legally "take offense" at pictures, books, etc., which they consider a menace to youth. The term "normal person" is

## NEWS FORECAST OF THE COMING WEEK

Washington, D. C., April 25.—Final arguments on the application of the Eastern railroad for a 5 per cent. freight rate increase will begin Monday before the Interstate Commerce Commission. A decision in the case is expected at an early date. If the commission holds that the added income is not needed the case will terminate automatically. On the other hand, if the commission decides the roads have established the necessity for additional income, the commission will proceed immediately to determine how the additional income should be raised.

Thursday, which will be the 125th anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington as first president of the United States, has been selected as the day for the formal dedication of the memorial blocks sent by the States of Colorado, Idaho and Washington to be placed in the Washington monument in this city. On the same day an interesting ceremony will take place in Statuary Hall of the Capitol—the unveiling of a statue of Dr. John Gorrie, presented to the nation by the state of Florida. Dr. Gorrie earned fame by inventing the first ice-making machine in the world.

The executive council of the American Bankers' association will meet Thursday in Hot Springs, Va., to make up the programme for the association's annual convention to be held in Richmond next fall. Another important gathering of the week will be the annual convention of the National Lumber Manufacturers' association, which will begin its sessions in Chicago Thursday.

Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador in Washington, accompanied by Lady Spring-Rice, will leave Washington for Ottawa on Monday to be the guests of the Duke of Cornwall, Governor-General of Canada. On Friday next the Duke of Cornwall will celebrate his sixty-fourth birthday.

In response to a call issued by the National Woman's Suffrage association the advocates of woman suffrage in cities and towns throughout the United States are expected to engage in parades and outdoor demonstrations on Saturday. These demonstrations are intended as a prelude to the national demonstration which is to be held in Washington one week later.

Walking from Hope to Hayfield by a path over the moors, writes a correspondent of the Manchester Guardian, I found the hills covered with snow.

A freezing east wind made things as thick as paint. At one point I had to admit that I had lost my way, and it was with relief that I found a sign-post. The inscription was blotted out with frozen snow. I climbed the post, and with great difficulty and personal discomfort thawed the snow with my already half-frozen hand, and succeeded in deciphering the inscription. It said: "Keep to the path."

St. Paul now employs an auto street sprinkler.

replaced by "person," and the provision of the existing law requiring that criminal intent be shown is dropped. Dr. Fulda, as well as the speakers who followed him at the protest meeting, declared that the proposed law would "put all Germans into the nursery." It constituted an unreasonable guardianship of adults in its efforts to guard children. It would mean that works of art would be judged from the viewpoint of the immature, and that would mean in turn that art would be throttled.

## "DO YOU BELIEVE IN FAIRIES?"

"Yes you do. Well, if you don't, you will believe in them, when you see the result of using our Fertilizer. You will then be sure that there are fairies who work at night painting the shades of grass green and then vigorously pushing them up into the sunlight."

"And then in the flowerbeds, another group of fairies are busily painting the leaves and flowers and pushing them to the surface."

"Where do they come from? Why, there are hundreds of them in every sack of our Fertilizer. Why not get them to work for you?"

**The M. Van Orden COMPANY**  
HOUGHTON LAURUM

## WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK

Subscribers Are Invited to Contribute to this Column. A communication should be signed by the writer's own name, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

### Calumet News—

The early closing movement apparently has become permanent, despite the refusal of a few merchants to concur in the agreement. The copper country is but following the example of other cities of the country where this early closing has been in force for some time and has worked satisfactorily. Now it seems strange that a few merchants, especially those who after signing the early closing agreement, should still continue to do business after six o'clock. Is this what you would call fair and honest competition? These merchants are very few, indeed, but let us hope that they will alter their course and help along the good movement.—A CLERK.

### JUST CAUGHT IN TIME.

"I hear there is going to be a Congressional inquiry into Backus's business." "I had no idea he was so prosperous as that."—Life.

### MEXICO'S POPULATION.

Whites—15 per cent.  
Mixed—54 per cent.  
Indians—30 per cent.  
Blacks—1 per cent.  
Literacy has been variously estimated as running from 75 to 95 per cent.



## QUO VADIS

CALUMET THEATER—FOUR PERFORMANCES, THURSDAY and FRIDAY, APRIL 30, MAY 1.  
PRICES—10c, 25c, 35c.